

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the non-final Office Action dated December 13, 2011. After its entry, claims 1, 3, 8-16, and 20 are pending in this application and subject to examination. Claims 2, 4-7, 17-19, 21, and 22 are cancelled. Claims 17, 21, and 22 stand rejected. Claims 1, 3, 8-16, and 20 are deemed allowable. No new matter is added.

Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 21 and 22 stand rejected as indefinite. Applicants respectfully traverse. However, in the interest of expediting prosecution, Applicants have cancelled claims 21 and 22, which renders this rejection moot.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 21 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Applicants respectfully traverse. However, in the interest of expediting prosecution, Applicants have cancelled claims 21 and 22, which renders this rejection moot.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claim 17 stands rejected as anticipated by EP 1182197 A1 to Wasserscheid et al. (Wasserscheid). Applicants respectfully traverse. However, in the interest of expediting prosecution, Applicants have cancelled claim 17, which renders this rejection moot.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants submit that the above-referenced application is in condition for allowance.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/591,114
Reply to Office Action dated December 13, 2011
Response dated March 13, 2012

Attorney Docket No.: 13111-00046-US

Applicant believes no fee is due with this amendment. However, if a fee is due, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees due or outstanding, including any extension fees, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-2775, under Order No. 13111-00046-US, from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: March 13, 2012

Respectfully submitted,

Electronic signature: /Eamonn P. Morrison/
Eamonn P. Morrison
Registration No.: 55,841
CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP
1007 North Orange Street
P. O. Box 2207
Wilmington, Delaware 19899-2207
(302) 658-9141
(302) 658-5614 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant